

# County Councilman David Marks Fifth District Newsletter

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Proudly Serving Carney, Kingsville, Loch Raven, Parkville, Perry Hall, and Towson

## **MESSAGE FROM COUNCILMAN MARKS:** **BUDGET FOCUSES ON SCHOOL MODERNIZATION AND CONSTRUCTION**

When I was elected to the Baltimore County Council in 2010, it was clear that school construction and modernization needed to be a top priority. Some of our schools were as much as 80 percent over capacity, and only a few had modern features such as air conditioning. I did not want this neglect to continue, and the day after my Inauguration, addressed the School Board about the need to deal with these issues.

We have made incredible progress since then. More than \$114 million has been spent on schools in the Fifth District. Overcrowding has been worst in Towson, so that is where classroom space was prioritized—at places like Hampton and Stoneleigh Elementary Schools. In Parkville and Perry Hall, I initiated a downzoning of hundreds of acres to lighten growth. At my request and with the support of the Perry Hall Improvement Association, Superintendent Dance will start an enrollment review this fall.

County Executive Kamenetz has unveiled a budget proposal that builds upon the work we started in 2010. The plan highlights the need for a new elementary school in White Marsh and a 200-seat addition in Perry Hall, and it sets a goal of air conditioning nearly every school within the decade.



*Councilman Todd Huff, Delegate John Cluster, and Councilman David Marks participated in the STEM Fair at Carney Elementary School, one of the northeastern schools that should be a top priority for renovation.*

I am also pleased with the funding of five new police officers in Towson and the new turf field at Towson High School. Both have been priorities for me. Public safety and the need to improve green space are the top issues I hear about Towson's growth, and I am happy the budget starts to address these concerns.

## **LOCH RAVEN COMMONS ADVANCES, WITH COMMUNITY PROTECTIONS**

Councilman Marks has introduced the resolution that begins the review process for Loch Raven Commons, the redevelopment of the Raytheon property on East Joppa Road. The resolution requires a 20 foot setback and lighting standards for the service station; landscaping, signage, and brick architecture; the resurfacing of Mylander Lane and part of Joppa Road; and a \$50,000 community benefit package for Loch Raven Village and Towson Estates. Councilman Marks actively consulted with community leaders before introducing the resolution.



## **CARNEY**

### **Harford Road Water Project to Begin**

As a reminder, construction will begin very soon on the Harford Road water line project. County utility crews will replace an old water line that extends along Harford Road in Carney. A new 12-inch replacement line will be installed between Cub Hill Road and a point 250 feet north of Joppa Road. Construction will cost \$3.8 million and should be finished by summer 2015.

Councilman Marks' office arranged for the Baltimore County Department of Public Works to brief the community at a meeting of the Carney Improvement Association last fall. For more information, please contact the county at [enginrng@baltimorecountymd.gov](mailto:enginrng@baltimorecountymd.gov).

## **PERRY HALL**

### **Redevelopment Begins at 8833 Belair Road**

On April 17, bulldozers began clearing the derelict shopping center at 8833 Belair Road. The area will be redeveloped into a retail center with brick architecture and landscaping, as well as a gateway to Downtown Perry Hall.



*Councilman Marks worked with the developer and County Executive Kamenetz's office on the demolition.*

### **Home Security Seminar Offered at Seven Oaks**

On Thursday, May 15 at 6 p.m., Seven Oaks Senior Center will offer a seminar on how to guard your safety and keep your home secure. The seminar will be presented by the Baltimore County Police Department. The community is invited to attend. Bring the kids or grandkids and they will be entertained with a game of Bingo and prizes during the seminar. Advance registration is requested by calling (410) 887-5192. Seven Oaks Senior Center is located at 9210 Seven Courts Drive.

### **Follow Progress on Perry Hall's Angel Park**

Angel Park is a proposed creative playground that will be built south of the Perry Hall library. Follow updates on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/perryhallangelpark>, on Twitter at @PHAngelPark, and on Instagram at [phangel\\_park](#).



*Future Home of Angel Park, South of the Perry Hall Library*

### **Brightview Perry Hall Expected to Open in July**

Construction on the Brightview Perry Hall project is nearing completion, with a projected opening date in late July. The senior housing project includes 148 apartments, with units for independent living, assisted living and memory care. It is located on Belair Road between Chapel and Forge Roads. Councilman Marks supported the Brightview project as a Planned Unit Development in 2011.

## **TOWSON**

### **LA Fitness Opens, New Sidewalks and Landscaping in Downtown Towson**

LA Fitness has opened at what was once the movie theatre complex at Towson Commons. The County Council adopted parking and signage changes that helped accommodate the new tenant. The movie theatre had been vacant since May of 2011.

New sidewalks with brick bands will be installed along Delaware and Shealy Avenues, providing more welcoming walkways surrounding Towson Square. The east side of York Road between Chesapeake and Pennsylvania Avenues also will be updated with decorative plantings and fresh sidewalks.

### **Traffic Calming Planned for Providence Road**

At the request of the Campus Hills Community Association, Councilman Marks expedited construction of a pedestrian bump-out in front of Cromwell Valley Elementary School. The \$15,000 project should be finished in May and lighten the speeding in front of the school.